# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1035
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2016
Sale of Spurious Insecticides/ Fertilizers
Patil Shri A.T. (Nana)

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government is aware of the rampant availability and sale of spurious insecticides and fertilizers in the country resulting in heavy losses to farmers in terms of low production and damage to crops;

(b) if so, the total number of samples of insecticides and fertilizers collected that failed quality tests during the last three years, year and State-wise including Maharashtra; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the production and sale of spurious insecticides and fertilizers in the country to save the farmers from incurring heavy losses?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): Yes, Madam. Government from time to time receives complaints about sale and stock of spurious insecticides and fertilizers.

(b): Details regarding drawl of samples of pesticides found misbranded and prosecution launched in the states/UTs in the last three years are enclosed at Annexure-I. Further, samples of pesticides drawn, found misbranded and prosecution launched by Insecticide Inspectors notified by Central Govt. in the last three years is enclosed at Annexure-II. The details of samples of fertilizers analysed and declared non-standard during 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 are at Annexures-III, IV and V.

(c): In order to control sale of spurious pesticides, a task force, has been created in Techno-Legal Cell of Directorate of Plant, Protection, Quarantine and Storage, Faridabad. The task force conducts raids/ inspection throughout the country on specific complaints received from various sources. At present, 168 officers of Directorate have been notified as Central Insecticide Inspectors and have been instructed to draw samples of chemical pesticides and Bio-products/ Bio-pesticides from various states of the country from their allotted areas. Raids have been conducted in the manufacturing premises and market located in various states to check the veracity of the complaints and drawl of pesticides samples for checking their quality.

In addition to this, 11,099 Inspectors have also been notified by the State Govts. to check the quality of pesticides, distributed/sold to the farmers. Action against those firms/individuals are taken as per the provisions of The Insecticides Act., 1968 and Rules framed thereunder, which are found to be involved in manufacturing / selling of substandard/spurious pesticides.

Contdâ€¦2/-



With regard to fertilizers, Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 has been promulgated to regulate the trade, price, quality and distribution of fertilizers. The FCO is issued under the section 3 of Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Specifications of fertilizers are prescribed in the said Order. Under clause 19 FCO, no person shall manufacture, sell, sale, offer for sale or distribute any fertiliser which is not of prescribed standard. State Governments are adequately empowered under the Fertiliser (Control) Order/Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to take appropriate administrative and legal action against those dealers/manufacturers/importers who do not comply with the provisions prescribed in the Order. There are 78 fertilizer testing laboratories in the country.

Samples of fertilizers are drawn periodically by the fertilizer inspectors of the State Governments from retailers/wholesalers and manufacturing units etc. for testing in the notified laboratories to check their quality in respect of the quality parameters prescribed in the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985.